

REMARKS

Status of the claims

Claims 1-5 and 16-19 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the canceled subject matter in one or more continuing applications.

Claims 6-8 are allowed. Claims 9-15 have been amended to depend from claim 6. Upon entry of this amendment, claims 6-15 will be pending and under examination.

Rejections

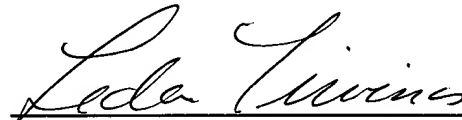
Claims 1-5 and 9-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. Claims 1-5 have been canceled, making their rejection moot. Claims 9-15 have been amended to depend from an allowed claim, thereby overcoming the rejection. Accordingly, Applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested.

Enclosed is a Petition for Extension of Time along with the required fee. Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

November 19, 2003



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